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ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

At a Meeting of the Trustees of the Leeds Cloth-Hall, held at the Committee-Room, on Tuesday the 3d day of March, 1812,

It was unanimously Resolved,

That the present distressed situation of the Woollen trade of this Riding, calls for the serious attention of the Legislature; and that it is a duty which the Merchants and Manufacturers owe to themselves and their country, humbly to represent their situation to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, and to the two houses of Parliament, in order that a suitable and effectual remedy for their distress may be obtained.

That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the system of Commercial Regulations and Restrictions, known under the name of the British Orders in Council, adopted and pursued ever since the year 1807, are a principal cause of the commercial difficulties of this nation, whereby our manufactured goods are prevented access to the foreign markets, and particularly to America; our capital is locked up, and our industry paralyzed; many of our master manufacturers are reduced to the class of labourers, and many, of our labouring manufacturers are thereby driven to seek relief from their parishes, are easily induced, by wicked and designing incendiaries, to adopt still more, pernicious and illegal courses.

That these facts, coupled with the number of bankruptcies and embarrassments that have recently taken place in old commercial houses of well-established credit, and extensive dealings, as well as those of lesser note, compel us to doubt the national policy of such measures as the British Orders in Council, and to seek a revocation, or at least a modification of them, so that our trade may be restored, established, and preserved, especially with America.

Resolved, That the Petitions now read, and addressed to the three branches of the Legislature, praying for a revocation or a modification of the British Orders in Council, are unanimously approved, and that a copy of the same shall be immediately prepared, and left for signatures at the Cloth-hall Committee-room, for the space of ten days from the 7th inst.

That the said petitions shall afterwards be transmitted to London, and that the Right Honourable Earl Fitzwilliam be requested to present the Petition to the House of Lords; and that the Right Ho-

norable Lord Viscount Milton, and William Wilberforce, Esq. be requested to present the petitions to the Prince Regent, and to the House of Commons.

That these Resolutions shall be published in both the Leeds Papers, and in The Morning Chronicle, and Courier.

TO THE GENTLEMEN, CLERGY, AND FREE-HOLDERS OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS.

Gentlemen,

Mr. Vansittart's address to you, declining to become a Candidate again to represent this County in Parliament, and the several other publications which have appeared in the Reading Mercury, added to the circumstance of a canvass having commenced, compel me to offer myself to your notice soone than I had intended.

If any thing can excite a sense of the value, and a proper exercise of the elective franchise, the weight or application of our taxes—the continuance of sinecures—the increase of pensions—the absence of our gold—and the planting an army of foreigners in the heart of our country, must produce that effect.

It is a trite saying among the apologists of corruption, that it originates with the people; as a proof of this calumny, they refer to the scenes that rotten boroughs exhibit, where in some of them the voters are debased by dependence upon an opulent patron, and in others are depraved by their feuds and contentions for the price of the representation; which, disregarding their oaths, they claim as their birth-right; and each shelters himself from the disgrace of bribery and perjury, by the equal infamy of his neighbour.

It is one of the best principles of our constitution, that no man shall be taxed without his consent. To put this principle into practice, and to extend the right of election to all who possess a qualification in the taxes they pay, will afford the best remedy for the calamities and grievances of the country, and the surest safeguard against the abuse of power. If electors shall then require bribes and treas, and impoverish the candidate before they make him their representative, then let his frauds and peculations be imputed to them; then, and not till, then, let it be said, that "Corruption originates with the people."

In giving your suffrages freely and with out cost, you will not only avoid the imputations that attach to the voters in pur-

chased boroughs, but you will have a right to expect from your representative that he will follow your example, and do his duty honestly and independently, by gratuitously bestowing his best services for his country's good.

Upon these principles, I offer myself a Candidate at the next election, confidently relying, that your conviction of the importance of these considerations, will impel you to the Hustings at your own expense.

I pledge myself to you, that if I am elected, I will most strenuously promote and support a Reform in Parliament, and will attach myself neither to those who possess, nor to those who seek the emoluments of office; having no views in soliciting your suffrages beyond the gratification of serving my country.

I am, Gentlemen, your faithful friend and servant,

WILLIAM HALLETT.

Dewford, March, 1812.

RESOLUTIONS.

At a meeting of the Merchants, Ship-Owners, Tradesmen, and other Inhabitants of the town of Liverpool, assembled by the Worshipful the Mayor, for the purpose of taking into consideration, and adopting such measures as may be deemed necessary, in order to obtain to this port the benefit of a participation in the trade to the East Indies.

John Bourne, esq. Mayor, in the Chair.

Resolved.—That we, in common with the rest of our fellow subjects, have a right to a free trade with all parts of the British Empire, and other countries, in amity with these United Kingdoms, subject only to such general regulations of trade as the policy of this country may require, or as may be necessary for maintaining the relations of these realms, with foreign states, and securing to government those revenues which may be necessary for its support.

Resolved.—That we humbly conceive that the great object of all legislative regulation in the commercial concerns of the country is the protection of this equal right in the subject, and the further extension of an honourable, just and legitimate commerce, and that therefore all monopolies which exclude the general body of the people from trading with other countries, are in derogation of the birth-right of the subject, and counteract the chief purpose which they ought to have in view.

Resolved.—That the monopoly of the East India Company is an additional instance, with others that might be adduced of the

injurious consequences that must always attend such attempts at an exclusive traffic, and that we conceive it to have been fully demonstrated, not only by the most conclusive reasoning, but by incontrovertible facts, that such monopoly is prejudicial to the general interests of the country at large, and discourages that commercial spirit, which, from the nature and local situation of these Islands, is indispensable to their prosperity, and upon which their security, at this moment, essentially depends.

Resolved.—That upon these grounds we will most cordially unite with our fellow subjects, the inhabitants of other towns and sea ports in the kingdom, in petitions to the legislature, for the abolition of the commercial monopoly of the East-India Company, in such most speedy and effectual manner as they may in their wisdom judge most expedient.

Resolved.—That the petition to the House of Commons, now proposed and read to this meeting, is approved, and that the same be signed by the chairman, and the persons attending this meeting, and by such others as may think proper to sign the same.

Resolved.—That the chairman be requested to transmit such petition to the members for the town of Liverpool, in order that they may present the same.

Resolved.—That a committee be appointed for the purpose of corresponding with other great towns and collective bodies of the manufacturing and commercial interest throughout the kingdom, and adopting such measures as they may conceive to be most likely to carry these resolutions into effect.

The following gentlemen were then appointed a committee, to carry into effect the foregoing resolutions:

William Roscoe, esq.	Adam Lodge, esq.
John Gladstone, esq.	Anthony Littledale, esq.
Cyrus Morrell, esq.	Charles Lawrence, esq.
William Burton, esq.	Moses Benson, esq.
John Richardson, esq.	Charles Turner, esq.
George Islam, esq.	Joseph Brooks Yates, esq.
Richard Pilford, esq.	Jacob Fletcher, esq.
Thomas Bourne, esq.	Robert Bagott, esq.
Joseph Leigh, esq.	William Ewart, esq.
John Tobin, esq.	William Rathbone, esq.
Thos. Fletcher, esq.	

The Mayor having left this Chair, it was

Resolved.—That this thanks of the meeting be given to the Mayor for his ready acquiescence in calling the same, and for his conduct in the chair, which was unanimously carried.